

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of selecting a gateway for interworking between first and second ~~network~~networks supporting different network protocols, said method comprising the steps of:

querying a unified location management device having location information stored therein for users of said different network protocols, said users including mobile users;

relaying mobile user location related information from said unified location manager regarding a user of [[said]] one of said first and second network; and

selecting said gateway based on said location information provided;

wherein for calls from an internet telephony device to a mobile device, said unified location manager operates as an inbound proxy for a given IP domain allowing selection of a location dependent routable temporary phone number such that a call path from the internet telephony device to the mobile device bypasses the mobile device's home MSC or gateway MSC; and for PSTN originated calls to an internet telephony user, cellular numbers are used to denote internet telephony telephones.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of selecting is optimized by providing a selection that minimizes any one of triangle routing, a PSTN call leg or an Internet call leg.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein selection of said gateway is optimized by selecting a gateway that minimizes a circuit switched portion of a call.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said location related information is used to assign a location dependent routable temporary telephone number for use in said gateway selection.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said internet telephony ~~accounts-telephones~~ are associated with SIP accounts.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said mobile location information can correspond to an internet telephony user.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein said location related information provides assignment of a GSM/UMTS temporary phone number.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said unified location manager is operable as a home location register for cellular networks and as a user registration and address resolution device for internet telephony networks.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said universal location manager uses a current Care-of-Address for providing said location related information for a mobile Internet telephony user.

10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein one of said first and second networks is circuit switched network and one of said first and second networks is an internet telephony network.

11. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of network protocols comprises at least two of ANSI-41, GSM MAP, SIP, H.323.

12. (Currently Amended) A method used for selecting a gateway for a call from a first network to a mobile user in a second network, said first and second ~~network networks~~ supporting different network protocols, said method comprising the steps of:

querying a unified location management device having location information for multiple mobile network technologies stored therein; and

providing location related information for said mobile user in said second network for use by said first network in selection of said gateway;

wherein for calls from an internet telephony device to a mobile device, said unified location manager operates as an inbound proxy for a given IP domain allowing selection of a location dependent routable temporary phone number such that a call path from the internet telephony device to the mobile device bypasses the mobile device's home MSC or gateway MSC; and for PSTN calls to an internet telephony user, cellular numbers are used to denote internet telephony telephones.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12, wherein said selection of said gateway selecting is optimized by providing a selection that minimizes any one of triangle routing, a PSTN call leg or an Internet call leg.

14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12, wherein said selection of said gateway is optimized by selecting a gateway that minimizes a circuit switched portion of a call.

15. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein said location related information is used to assign a location dependent routable temporary telephone number for use in said gateway selection.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12, wherein said internet telephony telephones accounts are associated with SIP accounts.

17. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein said mobile location information can correspond to an internet telephony user.

18. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein said unified location manager is operable as a home location register for cellular networks and as a user registration and address resolution device for internet telephony networks.

19. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein said universal location manager uses a current Care-of-Address for providing said location related information for a mobile Internet telephony user.

20. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein one of said first and second networks is circuit switched network and one of said first and second networks is an internet telephony network.

21. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for enabling optimized gateway selection for interworking between a first and second network, said apparatus comprising:

a data server for storing location and service profile data for multiple differing network technologies including mobile network technology;

at least two network protocol gateways for translating incoming location information requests into a protocol independent format;

a processor for interfacing between said data server and said protocol gateways, wherein mobile user location related information is able to be provided by said apparatus for use in selection of said gateway;

wherein for calls from an internet telephony user/device to a mobile device, said apparatus operates as an inbound proxy for a given IP domain allowing selection of a location dependent routable temporary phone number such that a call path from the internet telephony device to the mobile device bypasses the mobile device's home MSC or gateway MSC; and for PSTN originated calls to an internet telephony user, cellular numbers are used to denote internet telephony telephones.

22. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 21, wherein said selection of said gateway is optimized by providing a selection that minimizes any one of triangle routing, a PSTN call leg or an Internet call leg.

23. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 21, wherein said selection of said gateway is optimized by selecting a gateway that minimizes a circuit switched portion of a call.

24. (Original) The apparatus of claim 21, wherein said location related information is used to assign a location dependent routable temporary telephone number for use in said gateway selection.

25. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 21, wherein said internet telephony accounts-telephones are associated with SIP accounts.

26. (Original) The apparatus of claim 21, wherein said mobile location information can correspond to an internet telephony user.

27. (Original) The apparatus of claim 21 wherein said unified location manager is operable as a home location register for cellular networks and as a user registration and address resolution device for internet telephony networks.

28. (Original) The apparatus of claim 21, wherein said universal location manager uses a current Care-of-Address for providing said location related information for a mobile Internet telephony user.

29. (Original) The apparatus of claim 21, wherein one of said first and second networks is circuit switched network and one of said first and second networks is an internet telephony network.

30. (Original) The apparatus of claim 21, wherein the plurality of network protocols comprises at least two of ANSI-41, GSM MAP, SIP, H.323.